THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Whole sale prices of garlic which have been showing an increasing trend during February, 1987 to May, 1987 have declined considerably in July, 1987.

(b) and (c) Supply position of garlic has been low due to drought in the major producing areas. States have been requested to advise farmers to stock enough seed to increase area under garlic.

Mobile Fair Price Shops in Assam

1343. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only six States received Central assistance for arranging Mobile Fair Price Shops for distributing essential commodities; and

(b) whether there is any proposal for financial assistance to Assam for arranging mobile fair price shops in the State in view of wide spread devastation caused by flood and consequent hardship of prople?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) During the years 1985-86 and 1986-87, nine States have received financial assistance from the Union Department of Civil Supplies for this purpose.

(b) During the years 1985-86 and 1986-87, the Government of Assam has already been provided an amount of Rs. 20.97 lakhs for arranging 11 mobile fair price shops. Subsequently, no further proposal has been received from the Government of Assam for financial assistance for mobile fair price shops.

Major irrigation projects in Assam

1344. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of major irrigation projects in Assam; and

(b) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government for undertaking fresh irrigation schemes in Assam in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) There are two major ongoing projects and one proposed project in Assam during Seventh Plan. One project, namely, Pagladiya Dam was received in December, 1985 and comments of Central Water Commission have been conveyed to the State Government.

Construction of godowns by the Central Warehousing Corporation in West Bengal

1345. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of warehouses of 39,000 MT capacity was undertaken by the Central Warehousing Corporation in West Bengal in 1984;

(b) if so, what is the progress of the work and by when it is likely to be completed; and

(c) what are the reasons for delay if any?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) The Central Warehousing Corporation had undertaken const-

ruction of a capacity of 65,700 tonnes in West Bengal in 1984 at the following centres:—

Sl. No.	Centre	capacity (in tonnes)
1	Kharagpur	24,000
2	Saryul (Burdwan)	16,700
3	Sargachi	5,000
4	Haldia	20,000
		65,700

Construction work at all the centres, except Haldia, has been completed. The work at Haldia is also nearing completion. More time has been taken for completion of the work at Haldia, mainly due to labour problem.

Distribution of essential commodities under Public Distribution System

1346. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the essential commodities are being distributed in Delhi under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and number of items being distributed in Delhi;

(c) the number and details of items being supplied in the different States and Union Territories under the said system, State-wise;

(d) whether there is any proposal to distribute all essential commodities throughout the country under the Public Distribution System; and

(e) if so, by when and the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) At present, the Delhi Administration is distributing wheat, rice, levy sugar, imported edible oils, soft coke, kerosene and controlled cloth through the Public Distribution System. The number of items has been restricted to these seven key essential commodities as these are the only items being supplied by the Central Government to the States/UTs. for distribution through the Public Distribution System.

(c) As per latest available information, the number and details of items being supplied in different States/UTs. under Public Distribution System is given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below)

(d) and (e) The Central Government has assumed responsibility for supplying seven key essential commodities viz., wheat, rice, levy sugar, imported edible oils, soft coke, kerosene and controlled cloth to the States/UTs. for distribution to the consumers through Public Distribution System. However, States/UTs. are free to include in the Public Distribution System other commodities for which they make their own arrangements for procurement and distribution at prices prescribed by them. In view of administrative and financial constraints, the Central Government is not contemplating any addition to the seven key essential commodities listed above for distribution through Public Distribution system.